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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG PRESENTS:
KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE HUNTER AND THE HUNTED!
DIRECT EDITION

KNUCKLES

BOOK THIRTY-ONE

KING OF THE HILL

PART TWO OF THREE

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BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN FROM WITHIN!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

The story so far... when Knuckles was a kid, he was bullied by a slightly older gorilla named Monk. The Brotherhood of Guardians secretly threw Monk off The Floating Island so he couldn't bother Knuckles anymore.

It is now the present day, and Monk has returned to even the score with Knuckles. However, an unforeseen factor has come to play...

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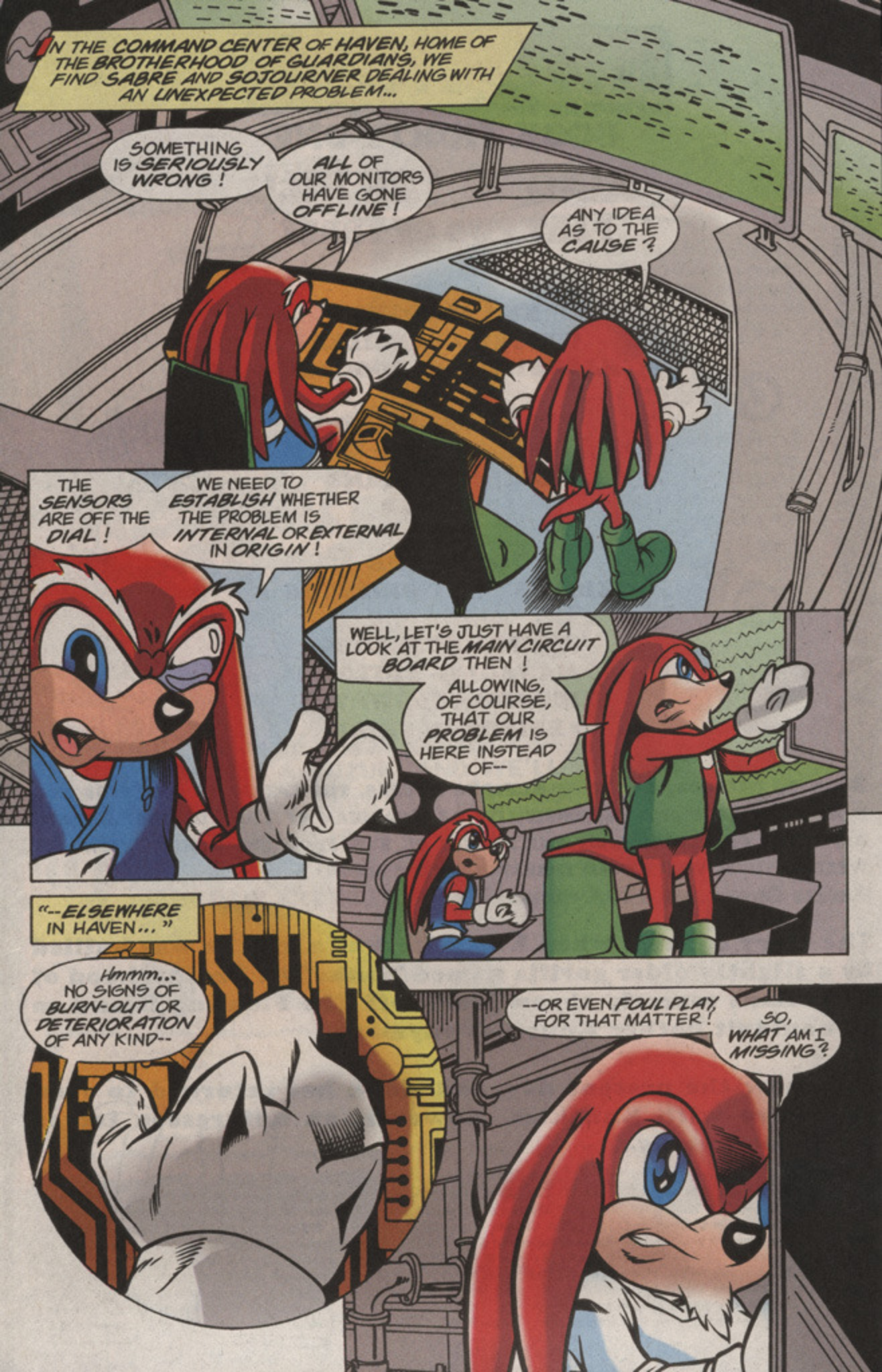
IN THE COMMAND CENTER OF HAVEN, HOME OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF GUARDIANS, WE FIND SABRE AND SOJOURNER DEALING WITH AN UNEXPECTED PROBLEM...
SOMETHING IS SERIOUSLY WRONG!
ALL OF OUR MONITORS HAVE GONE OFFLINE!
ANY IDEA AS TO THE CAUSE?
THE SENSORS ARE OFF THE DIAL!
WE NEED TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THE PROBLEM IS INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL IN ORIGIN!
WELL, LET'S JUST HAVE A LOOK AT THE MAIN CIRCUIT BOARD THEN!
ALLOWING, OF COURSE, THAT OUR PROBLEM IS HERE INSTEAD OF--
"--ELSEWHERE IN HAVEN..."
Hmmm... NO SIGNS OF BURN-OUT OR DETERIORATION OF ANY KIND--
--OR EVEN FOUL PLAY, FOR THAT MATTER!
SO, WHAT AM I MISSING?

KLIK!

IF I *HAVE* COVERED ALL MY BASES, THAT MEANS THE *STATIC* ON THE MONITORS IS DUE TO *OUTSIDE FORCES!*

THE ONLY THING IS, IN ORDER FOR *ANYONE* TO DISRUPT OUR MONITOR TRANSMISSIONS--

--THEY WOULD REQUIRE TECHNOLOGY *MORE ADVANCED* THAN ANYTHING WE'VE YET *ENCOUNTERED!*

AHH, THERE YOU ARE, LOCKE!

HAVE YOU SOLVED OUR *CONUNDRUM* YET?

GRANDFATHER *THUNDERHAWK--*

--OUR EQUIPMENT APPEARS TO BE IN *PEAK* CONDITION, SO OUR *MALFUNCTION* IS MORE LIKELY DUE TO SOME *OUTSIDE FORCE!*

COULD IT BE *MORITORI REX?**

*MEMBER OF THE DARK LEGION-J.F.

I DON'T BELIEVE SO!

IF WE WERE UNDER ATTACK FROM *DIMITRI'S FORCES--***

--WE'D *KNOW* BY NOW!

I SUSPECT THAT *WHOEVER* DID THIS--

SWWW5SHHH!

**THE DARK LEGION AGAIN-J.F.

"--- IS VERY LIKELY ENGAGED IN SOMETHING HE'D RATHER NO ONE ELSE KNEW ABOUT!"

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, BUSTER?

IF YOU DON'T GET THAT PEA-SHOOTER OUTTA MY FACE--

DON'T BE AN IDIOT, MONK!

THE MAN LOOKS LIKE HE MEANS BUSINESS!

-- I'M GONNA *WRAP* IT AROUND YOUR *NECK!*

the THRILL of the HUNT

YOU JUST GONNA *STAND* THERE AND SAY *NOTHING*, MISTER?

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO *SCARE* ME?

BIG NEWS FLASH--

--I DON'T SCARE SO--

--EASIL--

UGGHH!

ZAAAT!

THUD

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, ECHIDNA!

WHO? ME?

DON'T PLAY THE *INNOCENT* WITH ME, KNUCKLES!

I'VE *STUDIED* YOU FOR A *LONG* TIME, AND I *KNOW* WHO AND *WHAT* YOU ARE!

THAT'S *WHY* I'VE SOUGHT YOU OUT!

THIS OUGHTTA BE GOOD!

HEY!! WHAT'S THAT--

--COMING FROM OUT OF THOSE BUSHES?!!

SHADES OF DIMITRI!!!

IT'S A *ROBOTICIZED* OVER-LANDER!!!

HARDLY!

THIS IS MY MANSERVANT, *ARYU ONE-TWO*, A VERY *UNIQUE* CREATURE, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!

WHOA! HE JUST PICKED UP *MONK* AS IF HE WERE A SACK OF POTATOES!

ARYU IS *CAPABLE* OF *MANY* THINGS!

NOW THEN--

--PERHAPS I COULD *PERSUADE* YOU TO *FOLLOW* ALONG?

AT THAT MOMENT, INSIDE THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF HAVEN, WE FIND THE GUARDIAN LOCKE INTERRUPTED IN THE COURSE OF HIS WORK BY NONE OTHER THAN...

ARCHIMEDES!

WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S KNUCKLES?

I WENT AFTER THE LAD AS YOU REQUESTED--

--BUT HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!

NOT IN HIS DEN OR ANYWHERE I COULD THINK OF IN ECHIDNAOPOLIS!

HE COULD BE IN DANGER!

I'VE CHECKED EVERY CIRCUIT ON OUR MONITORING SYSTEM, AND BY ALL RIGHTS, WE SHOULD BE ONLINE!

IF SOMEONE IS CAPABLE OF INCAPACITATING THIS GROUP, THEY'RE DEFINITELY A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!

THAT SIGNIFIES TO ME SOME OUTSIDE FORCE MAY BE TRYING TO CRIPPLE US!

AGREED!

WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE! WE HAVE TO FIND KNUCKLES!

WHERE TO FIRST, LOCKE?

OUT THERE! THATAWAY!

BAM F!

END OF CHAPTER ONE

the THRILL of the HUNT

Chapter Two

AS LOCKE AND ARCHIMEDES SEARCH FOR THE YOUNGEST GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, WE FIND THE OBJECT OF THEIR SEARCH HESITATE AS HE APPROACHES HUNTER'S YACHT...

ISN'T SHE A BEAUTY? I HAD HER SPECIALLY BUILT!

I CAN IMAGINE FOR WHAT!

I DOUBT THAT! IT'S MORE THAN JUST A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION!

IT IS ALSO MY HOME! COME!

THIS IS THE BRIDGE-- THE NERVE CENTER OF MY SHIP!

IT CAN FUNCTION AUTOMATICALLY-- OR I CAN FLY HER MYSELF WHENEVER THE MOOD STRIKES ME!

YOU WOULDN'T BE RELATED TO A CERTAIN OVERWEIGHT MANIAC WITH DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR?

I TAKE IT YOU ARE REFERRING TO *JULIAN KINTOBOR!*

WHO?

YOU KNOW HIM BETTER AS *DOCTOR ROBOTNIK*, AND YES, HE IS OF MY SPECIES--

--*UNFORTUNATELY.*

THE MAN IS SIMPLY NOT A *SPORTSMAN!*

OH MY--!

WE HAVEN'T CROSSED PATHS *YET*, THOUGH SOMEDAY I SUSPECT WE WILL!

WELCOME TO MY *DEN*, KNUCKLES!

I SEE YOU *ADMIRING* MY *TROPHY* COLLECTION!

ADMIRING?!!

MORE LIKE TRYING TO KEEP FROM *UPCHUCKING* ALL OVER YOUR CARPET, BUB!

THIS IS THE *SICKEST* THING I'VE *EVER* SEEN IN MY LIFE!

WHAT KIND OF *MONSTER* HUNTS DOWN LIVING CREATURES LIKE THIS?

MONSTER?

YOU THINK I *KILL* IN COLD BLOOD?

IF THERE'S ONE THING I'M *NOT*--

KA-BLAM!

HEY!!!

I COULD HAVE SHOT YOU *DEAD* JUST THEN, BUT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN *RIDICULOUSLY EASY*!

YOU SEE, KNUCKLES, I ENJOY THE *COMPETITION*! I LIKE AN *OPPONENT* WHO FIGHTS BACK!

--IT'S BEING A *POOR SPORT*!

WELL, IF IT'S A *FIGHT* YOU WANT--

--I'LL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO *GIVE* YOU ONE!

CAN YOU TAKE A BEATING WITHOUT A GUN, BIG MAN?

THOUGH I COULD PROBABLY TAKE YOU IN A *PHYSICAL* CHALLENGE, I PREFER A CONTEST OF *STRATEGY*!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'LL *COOPERATE*?

MONK? HE'S NO SKIN OFF MY NOSE!

I ANTICIPATED SOME FORM OF *PERSUASION* MIGHT BE IN ORDER--

-- SO I LOOKED AROUND FOR THE *BEST* REASON I COULD *FIND* IN ORDER TO CONVINCE YOU!

NEED I SAY MORE?

ELSEWHERE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND, NEAR THE SITE WHERE KNUCKLES AND MONK FIRST ENCOUNTERED HUNTER...

AHA!

MY SUSPICIONS WERE CORRECT, ARCHIMEDES!

SOMEONE HAS DEFINITELY TAMPERED WITH OUR EQUIPMENT!

AND BY THE LOOKS OF THIS LITTLE DEVICE--

--THEY KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE DOING!

OBVIOUSLY, WHOEVER-IT-WAS KNOWS ABOUT THE GUARDIANS, WHICH DOESN'T LEAVE US A LONG LIST OF SUSPECTS!

WHOEVER-IT-WAS MAY HAVE TRIED COVERING THEIR TRACKS--

BAMF!

--BUT HE, SHE OR IT WASN'T ENTIRELY SUCCESSFUL!

TAKE A LOOK!

ALLOWING FOR THE POSSIBILITY THIS MAY BE A DECOY OF SOME KIND--

UNLESS OUR FRIEND CAN WALK ON AIR, THEY COULDN'T HELP BUT LEAVE AN IMPRESSION!

BAMF!

"--LET'S *FOLLOW* THE *TRACKS* AND SEE WHERE THEY *LEAD*!"

I'M NOT EXACTLY *WILD* OVER THE *STYLE*!

GIVE ME *ONE GOOD REASON* WHY I SHOULD DO *ANYTHING* YOU SAY, OVERLANDER!

NOW THAT THE GORILLA IS AWAKE--*HERE!* PUT THESE *ON!*

K-KLING!

I'LL GIVE YOU *SEVERAL*!

THOSE *LASERS* YOU SEE DESCENDING FROM THE CEILING CAN BE PRETTY *CONVINCING*!

NOW, LET'S QUIT *WASTING* MY TIME, SHALL WE?

YOU MAY HAVE ME IN THE BAG, HUNTER--

--BUT WHAT MAKES YOU THINK *BIG, TALL* AND *HAIRY* IS GOING ALONG WITH THE *PROGRAM* ONCE WE'RE ON THE *OUTSIDE*?

SNAP!

YOU MAY BE MORE *ALTRUISTIC**THAN OUR *MONKEY* FRIEND, KNUCKLES--

--BUT HE'LL *LEARN* WHAT'S IN HIS *BEST INTEREST* BEFORE LONG!

NOW *GO!*

*MEANING 'UNSELFISH' -DICTIONARY GABRIE

THAT SURE WAS FRIENDLY!

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO, MONK?

WAIT--

ARRGH!!!

AHAHHHHRRRR!

huh huh

OOOOH-- THAT REALLY HURT!

HEY, CHUMP--

YEAH-- WELL--

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I'M LOOKING OUT FOR NUMBER ONE, CHUMP!

I'M GETTING AS FAR FROM THAT NUTCASE AS I CAN!

--I THINK THAT EXPLAINS THE NECK-WEAR!

AAAARRRRGGGHHH!

DON'T YOU SEE, MONK?

HUNTER DIDN'T-- WANT US-- TO GO IT ALONE!

HE WANTED A CHALLENGE!

SO, EITHER WE GIVE HIM ONE--

--OR WE'RE THE DEAD DUCKS!

AS MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT--

--ONCE I PULL IT OFF--

--YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT!

OOH-- MY HEAD!

C'MON! THERE'S NO TELLING HOW MUCH OF A HEAD START HE'S GIVING!

THE CO-STARS TAKE THE LEAD!

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IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST TRACKED DOWN SO *WORTHY* AN *ADVERSARY*--

--THAT I HAD BEST *SAVOR* THE *EXPERIENCE*--

--FOR WHO CAN SAY WHEN THE *NEXT* TIME WILL COME?

ALL RIGHT, ECHIDNA--

--LET THE HUNT
COMMENCE!
TO BE CONTINUED...

ESPIO THE CHAMELEON

PART 2

THE BEST OF FRIENDS

THE STORY THUS FAR... ESPIO ASSISTED JULIE-SU IN HER SEARCH FOR KNUCKLES. THE INTREPID DUO CAME ACROSS BARNEY, A FELLOW CHAMELEON FROM ESPIO'S VILLAGE, LYING INJURED IN THE FOREST. BEFORE FALLING UNCONSCIOUS, BARNEY TRIED TO WARN THEM AWAY.

UNDETERRED, ESPIO SENT BARNEY WITH JULIE-SU TO SEEK MEDICAL HELP, WHILE HE PAID A VISIT TO THE VILLAGE IN SEARCH OF ANSWERS, ONLY TO FIND THE LAST THING HE EVER EXPECTED...

WHAT ON MOBIUS HAPPENED TO YOU, VALDEZ?

HOW DID YOU GET LIKE THIS?

WRITER- KEN PENDERS
PENCILER- COLLEEN DORAN
INKER- JIM AMASH
COLORIST- FRANK GAGLIARDO
LETTERER- VICKIE WILLIAMS
EDITOR- J.F. GABRIE

DON'T BE UPSET, MY FRIEND!

I'M QUITE WELL, ACTUALLY! BETTER THAN I'VE EVER BEEN!

ALL OUTWARD EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY--

--I'D STILL LIKE TO HEAR HOW YOU-- UH--YOU KNOW--

DON'T BE SO *PEE-CEE*, ESPIO!

"I WAS ON A *MISSION* TO ASSIST IN THE *EVACUATION* OF THE CITIZENRY OF *MOBOTROPOLIS*--

HOW DID I ACQUIRE THE *ARMOR PLATING* IS WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO ASK, ISN'T IT?

"--WHEN WE DISCOVERED ROSIE AND HER YOUNG WARDS IN DIRE NEED...

"THE *COMMANDER* ISSUED A *WARNING* TO THE *INVADING FORCES*, THEN DIRECTED US TO *ATTACK*...

"NATURALLY, WE *DID* WHAT WE WERE *TOLD*...

KA-BOOM!

BOMB-- SHOW THEM WHAT I *MEAN*!

"DURING THE HEAT OF *BATTLE*, HOWEVER, MY FELLOW COMMANDOS *ABANDONED* ME...

LET'S GO!

"YOU CAN'T BEGIN TO IMAGINE HOW *DEVASTATED* I FELT AT BEING *LEFT BEHIND* BY MY *COMRADES*, ESPECIALLY AFTER ALL WE'D BEEN THROUGH *TOGETHER*!*

WAIT!

WAAH!

AARGHH!

* A WARPED P.O.V. OF EVENTS IN SONIC #75.- JFG.

"BY A QUIRK OF FATE, MY SALVATION CAME IN THE FORM OF A RATHER ECCENTRIC CHARACTER...

PUT HIM OVER THERE-- ON THAT TABLE!

WHAT HAVE WE HERE? A CHAMELEON?

WHAT IS HE DOING SO FAR FROM THE FLOATING ISLAND?

THIS ONE MAY PROVE QUITE USEFUL AFTER ALL!

"HE WAS A KINDLY DOCTOR, AND IF HE HAD NOT TAKEN CARE OF ME, I MIGHT NOT HAVE SURVIVED MY INJURIES...

ONCE YOU'RE EXPOSED TO THE EFFECTS OF MY ROBOTICIZER...

...I'LL HAVE THE PERFECT LIEUTENANT TO CARRY OUT MY PLANS FOR THE FLOATING ISLAND!

WHA--? WHERE--?

YOU JUST LIE BACK AND RELAX, MY FRIEND!

IT'LL ALL BE OVER IN JUST A MINUTE!

BUT...

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE DOC DID, BUT I FELT LIKE A WHOLE NEW BEING AFTER...

ZZ ZZ UU UU MM!

A MINDLESS DRONE CAN'T ACCOMPLISH MUCH, BUT ONCE I FINISH REPROGRAMMING MY LATEST RECRUIT HERE--

--YOU'LL BE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT THE TASK I HAVE FOR YOU--

--ON THIS PIECE OF REAL ESTATE SHOWN HERE IN MY 3-D DIARAMA!

DOCTOR ROBOTNIK THEN EXPLAINED HOW SOMETHING CALLED THE CHAOS EMERALD COULD SAVE THE ENTIRE PLANET FROM THE EVIL KING ACORN!

UNFORTUNATELY--

--A CERTAIN GROUP OF ECHIDNAS WISH TO USE THE EMERALD FOR THEIR OWN SCHEMES OF GLOBAL DOMINATION!

I'M BEGINNING TO DOUBT YOU'RE THE REAL VALDEZ!

YOU SURE DON'T SOUND LIKE HIM!

I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, MY FRIEND!

I THOUGHT OF ALL WHO WOULD BELIEVE MY TALE, IT WOULD BE YOU!

SINCE MORE PERSUASION IS REQUIRED--

--PERHAPS OUR CHARMING LIZA CAN CONVINCE YOU!

LET ME GO! LET ME GO!

MY, MY! WE'RE NOT SO CO-OPERATIVE NOW, ARE WE?

COULD IT BE OUR LIZA HAS HAD A CHANGE OF HEART?

OR IS IT THAT YOU'RE FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR *PREFERENCE* FOR *ESPIO* OVER ME?

WHAT IS HE *TALKING* ABOUT, LIZA? WHAT HAVE YOU *DONE*?

I KNEW YOU AND VALDEZ WERE *BEST FRIENDS*, ESPIO--

--SO I THOUGHT YOU COULD *REASON* WITH HIM. IF I'D HAVE KNOWN THIS...

IT'S *OBVIOUS* OUR DEAR LIZA HAS *OUTLIVED* HER PURPOSE!

TAKE HER TO *THE CHAMBER!*

NO! NO!

LEAVE HER ALONE, VALDEZ!!!

WHAAAM!!

DUUM!

JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE *SAYS* THEY'RE A *FRIEND*, ESPIO--

--DOESN'T *MEAN* THEY *ARE* ONE!

I OFFER UP *EXIBIT A*!

OUR DEAR, SWEET LIZA--WHO SHOWED HER *TRUE COLORS* WHEN SHE *BETRAYED* ME!

BY DOING SO, SHE *FORFEITED* HER RIGHT OF *FREE CHOICE*!

ONCE HER *TREATMENT* IS COMPLETE, SHE WILL *NEVER* BE *DISLOYAL* AGAIN!

SUCH A *FATE* AWAITS ALL WHO WOULD *OPPOSE* ME!

YOU MONSTER!!!

MAYBE--MAYBE *NOT*! THAT DEPENDS ON YOU, MY *FRIEND*!

TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW OF THE ECHIDNA *KNUCKLES*, AND HIS SECRETS, AND I'LL *SPARE* THE REMAINING *CHAMELEONS*!

BUT IF YOU *DON'T*, I'LL ROBOTICIZE *EVERY* LAST ONE OF YOUR PEOPLE!

TO BE CONTINUED...

FISTFUL OF LETTERS

WE'RE SHORT ONE GUARDIAN THIS SATURDAY, VECTOR...
SORRY, MIGHTY-- THAT'S GAME DAY... FLORIDA GATORS VS. F.S.U. SEMINOLES!
SAVING THE WORLD IS ONE THING, BUT THIS IS SERIOUS COLLEGE FOOTBALL!
OF COURSE... HOW FOOLISH OF ME...
HUT! HUT! HUT!
IT'S FASCINATING TO WATCH THE REPTILIAN BRAIN STEM IN ACTION...
OH, YEAH! CAN I GET A "GO GATORS!"

OFF PANEL **by Gallagher, Manak & Amash**

THIS JUST IN!

The upcoming "SONIC ADVENTURE" storyline on sale late November through late January 2000 in a story so huge that it's taking a multiple issues of SONIC THE HEDGEHOG and one 48-page SONIC SUPER SPECIAL to tell it all. That, my friends, is the official game adaptation to 'SONIC ADVENTURE!' This game can only be played on one new system: SEGA's DREAMCAST -- "the ultimate gaming machine" -- debuting on 9/9/99!

This high-speed thrill ride sets Sonic loose in a fantastic new 3-D adventure at speeds of up to 60 frames per second! With breathtaking graphics, six playable characters, full 360 degree movement in expansive 3-D worlds (and even "mini-games" to discover), SONIC ADVENTURE shows gamers the future of video games today, using the power of SEGA Dreamcast. Producer Yuji Naka and his Sonic team are taking Sonic and his friends to a new level. Gamers can now play as one of any six characters including Sonic, Tails, Knuckles, and Amy Rose, or new characters, Big The Cat and E-102. These characters can now climb, fly, hover, snowboard and for the first time, talk -- whatever it takes to stop their nemesis, Dr. Robotnik. Check out the game, it's definitely worth your hard-earned cash!

Catch you on the flip side!

J.F. GABRIE
Editor / Art Director

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

Re: KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #27-

Dear Knuckles.

Greetings from the United Kingdom! Having read KNUX #27, I thought the story was terrific! This unexplored aspect of Knuckles' character is certainly proving to be interesting. Chris Allan's artwork is also improving, as well, and I certainly look forward to reading Knux #28!

michael@simpsonsuk.freeserve.co.uk

Thanks for the kind words. Everyone here was quite impressed by Chris' version of the Knuckles cast of characters that we asked him to try his hand pencilling the "Tales Of The Great War" stories running in the current issues of SONIC THE HEDGEHOG. Check it out and see if you don't agree. On the other hand, we did have our dissenters, as stated by our next correspondent.

Hello, Mr. Penders.

It feels pretty cool just to write to you. I am a big fan and collector of the Sonic and Knuckles comic books. The only complaint I have about the Knuckles comic is that the story artwork has gotten downright terrible (not to pin the blame on anyone...Chris Allan!), but I've always loved the cover art. I've really grown to love the stories. I like all the drama, politics, and romance. It's nice to see that the Knuckles comic hasn't turned into just another brainless action beat-'em-up comic. Thanks for making the Knuckles comic such a joy to read!

JjaysonN@aol.com

We're sorry Chris wasn't your cup of tea, Jayson. Part of the problem, as we have seen over the years happen with many series, is that when the fans are used to a particular creative team on a book for such a long stretch, as Ken, Manny and Andrew were over the first 20 issues of this series, they are resistant to change, any change, no matter how good the stories and art are. However, if an artist stays on a book long enough, more often than not, he/she usually wins them over.

Dear Knuckles.

How are you doing? I just finished reading KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #27. I am glad that you finally asked Julie-Su out on a date with you. I very much enjoyed the story and animation. Can't wait for KNUX #28. Get to know Julie-Su more, she's cool. You are cute and she is pretty. I hope you guys keep your relationship going on forever. I am sure Knux wants a son to follow in his footsteps. Don t forget to kiss her, and give her flowers. Julie-Su is your type of girl. Speaking about the other guy, Vector, where's his date? I hope he doesn't give up. I don't seem to like what's happening with Lara's and Wyn's relationship that much. Your birthday is coming, so I'll just say Happy B-Day!! I am hoping to see Charmy and Safron soon. Since it s love season, I am in love with the one and only Constable Remington. He's my kinda' guy. I very much like and enjoy romantic comedy. Thanks!!

Mary Ann Remington
Honolulu, HI

You re most welcome, Mary Ann. Your response, along with the vast majority of the readership, has been very positive concerning "The First Date" storyline, which is gratifying considering that for a series supposedly aimed primarily at young boys, the last thing anyone would expect from us is a romantic comedy. Expect to see more of the unexpected from us in future stories to come, such as... aww, that would be telling.

Well, that's it for this month. Thank you all for your comments. See you in thirty. And remember...

KEEP COOL!

Cover by Manny GalÆn and Ken Penders. Colors and separations by Darrin Moore and Heroic Age.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In two weeks: A new logo, a new trade dress, a new story direction! A ceremony is conducted for our blue hero and the entire village of Knothole are out in their Sunday best for it! Look out for "A New Beginning" in the next exciting installment of Sonic The Hedgehog! This story is brought to you by the talents of Karl Bollers, FRY and Andrew Pepoy. Also in this issue: The conclusion of "Tales of the Great War!"

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #78 on sale late Oct. 1999!

Next Month: This is it! The conclusion of the current Knuckles storyline "King Of The Hill!" Hunter closes in on our pair, Knuckles and Monk, as they struggle to work together for their very lives. To find out what happens, you must read this issue. Written and penciled by Ken Penders with inks by Harvo. Also: The conclusion to "Espio The Chameleon" solo story by Penders with art by Colleen Doran and Andrew Pepoy.

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #32 on sale mid-Nov. 1999!

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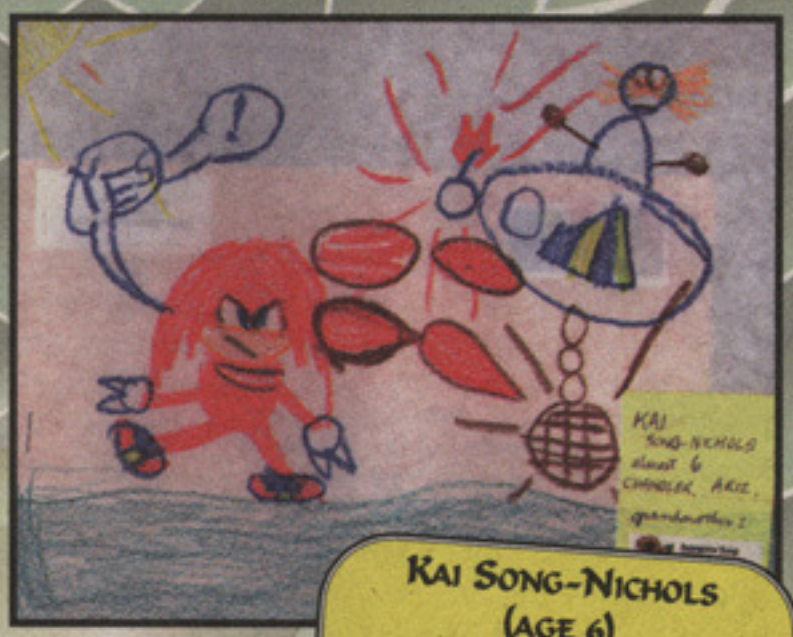

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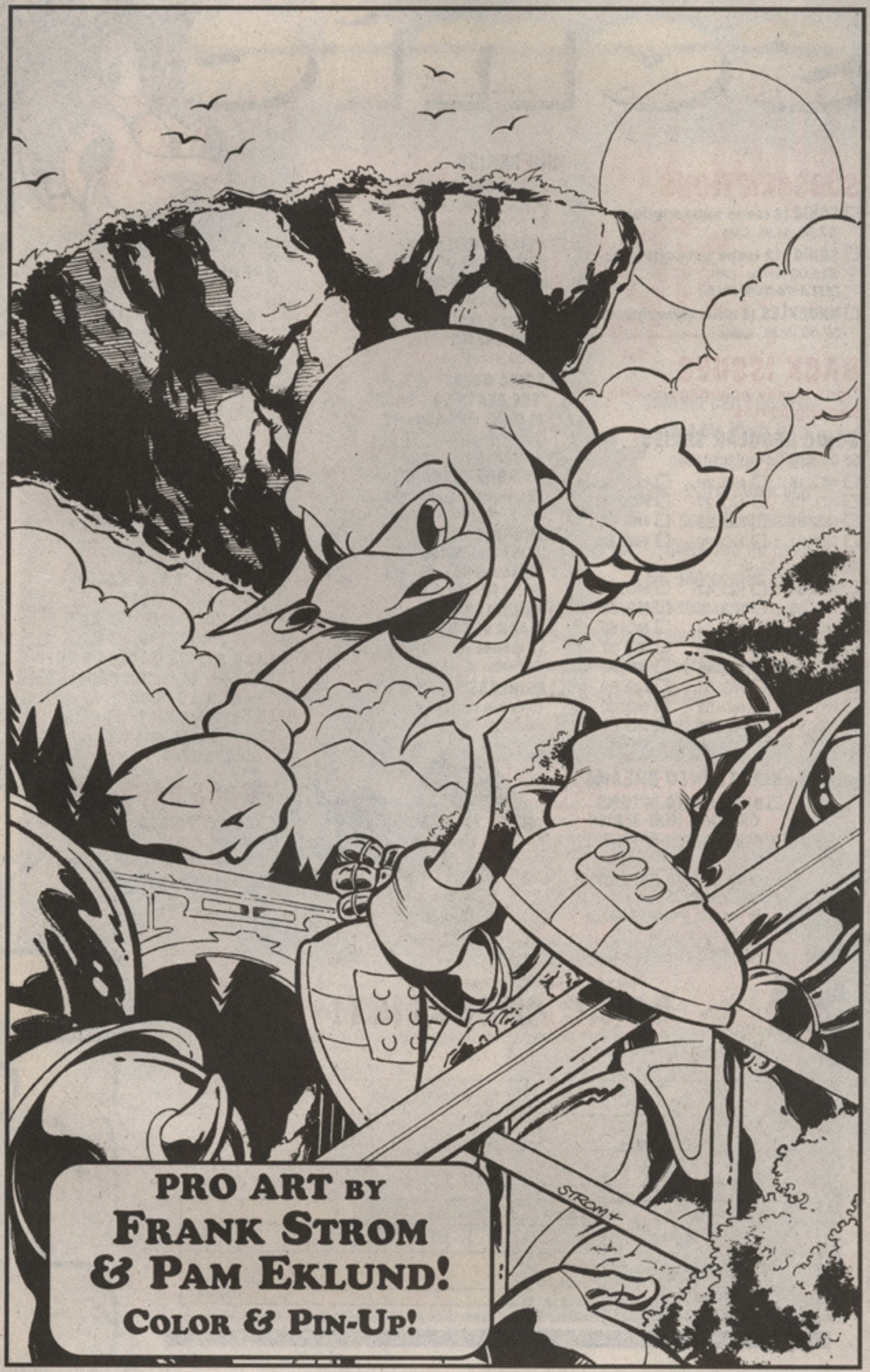
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